



South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



SDNG UNITS RECEIVE NGAUS AWARDS

South Dakota Air and Army National Guard units continued to earn top honors for performance excellence during the 2016 National Guard Association of the United States annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland, Sept. 9-12.

For the second year in a row, the Air Guard's 114th Fighter Wing of Sioux Falls was the recipient of a Distinguished Flying Unit Plaque, which recognizes the five most outstanding Air National Guard flying units in the nation. This is the sixth time the 114th has received the honor, which was previously awarded in 1980, 1985, 1988, 2008 and 2015.

For the second year in a row, Army Guard units received awards in all three of the Army categories.

The 153rd Engineer Battalion of Huron received the Major General Milton A. Reckord Trophy for the third straight year as the most outstanding Army National Guard battalion in the nation for achieving the highest standards in training and readiness.

Rapid City's 82nd Civil Support Team received the General John J. Pershing Plaque for weapons marksmanship. The unit attained the highest figure of merit (highest percentage of assigned members qualified) during annual weapons qualification firing with assigned individual weapons.

Rapid City's Company C, 1-189th Aviation Regiment received the Certificate of Victory for having the highest overall figure of merit in the nation. The 1-189th was also the recipient of the Pershing Plaque during last year's conference.

"The state of readiness and overall quality of our units is unmatched by any other state as evidenced by the selection for these prestigious awards," said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, SDNG adjutant general. "I couldn't be more proud of the soldiers and airmen of the South Dakota National Guard!"

Inside this issue:

New VA Clinic Coming to South Dakota	2
KWDH Conference	2
New VSO in Charles Mix County	2
Aurora County Honors Vietnam Veterans	3
Veterans Memorial Anniversary Celebration	4
Harlem Ambassadors	5
Upcoming Events	6

STOUX FALLS VA DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES NEW VA CLINIC IN NORTH STOUX CITY, SD

Darwin Goodspeed, Director of the Sioux Falls Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System, has announced a new VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic will be built in North Sioux City, SD.

The Sioux City CBOC in Sioux City, Iowa opened in July of 2000 and was designed to take care of 1500 Veterans. Currently approximately 4,000 veterans receive care there now. The new site will expand to nearly 26,000 square feet (three times the size of the current location). This will allow for increased space for primary care and mental health, optometry, audiology, radiology services, and additional specialty services.

The new location will have convenient access on West Anchor Drive with ample parking available. It will also be close to a variety of other health care organizations in the Dakota Dunes area.

No completion date has yet been set, but completion is tentatively scheduled for late fall 2017. The Vet Center currently co-located with the outpatient clinic will not move with the outpatient clinic.

SOUTH DAKOTA WONT BE HOSTING KWDH CONFERENCE

We have been informed that South Dakota was not selected as the site for the 2017 Korean War Digital History Book Project Conference.

Committee members felt that South Dakota's lodging and air fare costs were too high compared to many of the other locations.

Although not selected as the site for the conference, South Dakota will still be active with this group and will encourage South Dakota's history and social study teachers to attend as we strive to preserve honorable services and sacrifices of our veterans and their outstanding legacy.

NEW VSO NAMED AT CHARLES MIX COUNTY

Charles Mix County has selected Todd Breen as their new county veterans service officer. Breen replaces Roy Farabee who retired this past summer.

Breen's email address is tbreen@charlesmixcounty.org. Todd's office hours will be 8:00 am—4:30 pm Tuesday—Thursday.

Todd served active duty Army from 1981-1984 and then joined the South Dakota National Guard. He retired from the SDNG in 2001 with one deployment during Desert Storm.

SDDVA welcomes Todd to our network of partners.



AURORA COUNTY HONORS VIETNAM VETERANS

Last Saturday, Aurora County Veterans Service Officer Ron Falor hosted Vietnam Veterans and their families for a special dinner. Falor used this opportunity to recognize these heroes and thank them for their service.

Aurora County presented each one of these heroes with a special challenge coin that was created just for them. In addition, Falor presented all of them with one of the Commemorative Vietnam Veterans lapel pins.

SDDVA's Kevin Bowen served as a keynote speaker for the ceremony. In his remarks Bowen, a son of a Vietnam Veteran, gave the perspective of how the children of Vietnam Veterans were impacted by the way their parents were welcomed home. Bowen thanked all the veterans for their service and

said
"Welcome
Home and Thank You!"

Our very own Doug McCuddin also assisted with the program and had a booth from the Vet Centers.

Nancy Falor, VSO for Buffalo County and Crow Creek Sioux Tribe assisted Ron with this program. Ron and Nancy are truly a team working together for our heroes in central South Dakota.



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY

PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2016

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 TH

- Main Street Block Party
- Starting at 5PM going to 2AM
- Open to the public
- Sponsored by the Longbranch

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 TH

- The parade starts @ 9:30 at the Stanley CO. Fair Grounds in FT. Pierre.
Traveling through Pierre down Sioux Ave., to Wells Ave., past the Capital building on Capitol Ave., to Euclid, up to Broadway Ave. to The Veteran's Memorial on The State Capitol grounds.
All riders and participants must be at the Stanley Co. Fair Grounds at 8AM. Lineup will start at 9am. All flag bearers will line up in front, no matter the group, organization or individual.
- Dedication ceremony to start @12:00
- Celebration to follow at Steamboat Park & Amphitheater
- Entry for the festivities:
 - ◆ A monetary donation - the money raised goes to help: The National Alliance of Families and Public Education of the POW/MIA issue.
 - ◆ 2 non-perishable food items - All non-perishable food items collected will be donated to the local food pantry.
- Live music provided by DJ, Four Score Hero
- Food vendors will be present.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JOE GERLACH - 605-569-1101

Sponsored by the: Vietnam Era Veterans Association/Legacy Veterans MC

Sponsored by the: SD Beef Council

Co-Sponsored by: The Vietnam Veterans of America * Second Brigade MC * Cities of Pierre & Fort Pierre * Budweiser * Jerome beverage/Miller Lite * Artic Ice * Pizza Ranch * All Motels/Hotels of Pierre/Fort Pierre area * Longbranch Saloon * Drifters Bar & Grill * Wells Fargo Bank * Toms Diner * B.A.C.A. MC * Zanders Automotive * The American Legion * VFW * KCCR Radio Station * KGFX Radio Group * Pierre Police Dept. * Stanley Co Sheriff's Dept. * Pierre & Ft. Pierre Fire Dept. * JC Printing, Inc.



The Harlem Ambassadors are coming to Sioux Falls!
Watch them play local teams in this [basketball show](#).
The event is [great family fun](#) and will raise money to help
Children in Sioux Falls and around the World!
The Ambassadors encourage kids to stay in school and
off drugs while they help foster racial harmony.

The Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls
Hosts the
Harlem Ambassadors!

7:30pm
September 26, 2016
O'Gorman High
School Gym



Buy Tickets at Sioux Falls Hy-Vee Stores or www.SFKiwanis.brownpapertickets.com
Advance Tickets: \$7 Students and Seniors / \$9 Adults / Kids 5 and under FREE
At-the Door Tickets: \$10 Students and Seniors / \$12 Adults / Kids 5 and under FREE

Upcoming Events

2016

Sept. 23—Veterans Memorial 10th Anniversary Block Party—Pierre Street—Pierre—5:00 pm –2:00 am (CT)
Sep. 23—Veterans Stand Down—VFW—Sioux Falls (3601 S. Minnesota Avenue) - 9:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
Sept. 23-25—VFW Fall Council of Administration and State Commander and Auxiliary President Homecoming—Ramkota Hotel—Pierre
Sept. 24—Veterans Memorial 10th Anniversary Parade—Pierre 9:30 am (CT)
Sept. 24—Veterans Memorial 10th Anniversary Dedication Ceremony—Capitol Lake Visitors Center—Pierre—12:00 noon (CT)
Oct. 3—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
Oct. 8—DAV Fall Conference—DAV—Sioux Falls—10:00 am (CT)
Oct. 18-19—South Dakota Veterans Commission Meeting—Post 8 American Legion—Pierre 1:00 pm (CT)
Nov. 7-8—SDDVA Refresher Training for CTVSOs—Sioux Falls—1:00 pm (CT)
Dec. 6—SDDVA Mini Conference—Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home—Hot Springs—10:00 am—3:00 pm (MT)
Dec. 6—Governor's Budget Address—1:00 pm (CT)
Dec. 7—SDDVA Mini Conference—Post 8 American Legion—Pierre—10:00 am—3:00 pm—(CT)
Dec. 8—SDDVA Mini Conference—Yankton—10:00 am—3:00 pm (CT)
Dec. 14—SD Veterans Council Legislative Round Table—Sioux Falls DAV—12:00 noon (CT)
Dec. 15—SD Veterans Council Legislative Round Table—Watertown American legion—12:00 noon (CT)
Dec. 17—SD Veterans Council Legislative Round Table—Rapid City VFW—10:00 am (MT)

2017

Jan. 10 - Governor's State of the State Address—1:00 pm (CT)
Jan. 11—SDDVA/Veterans Council Legislative Reception—5:00 pm—8:00 pm (CT)
Feb. 4—Valentines for Veterans Concert—Sioux Falls Washington Pavilion—3:00 pm (CT)
Feb 10-12—SD American Legion Mid Winter Conference—Oacoma
Jun 15-18—SD American Legion State Conference—Watertown

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